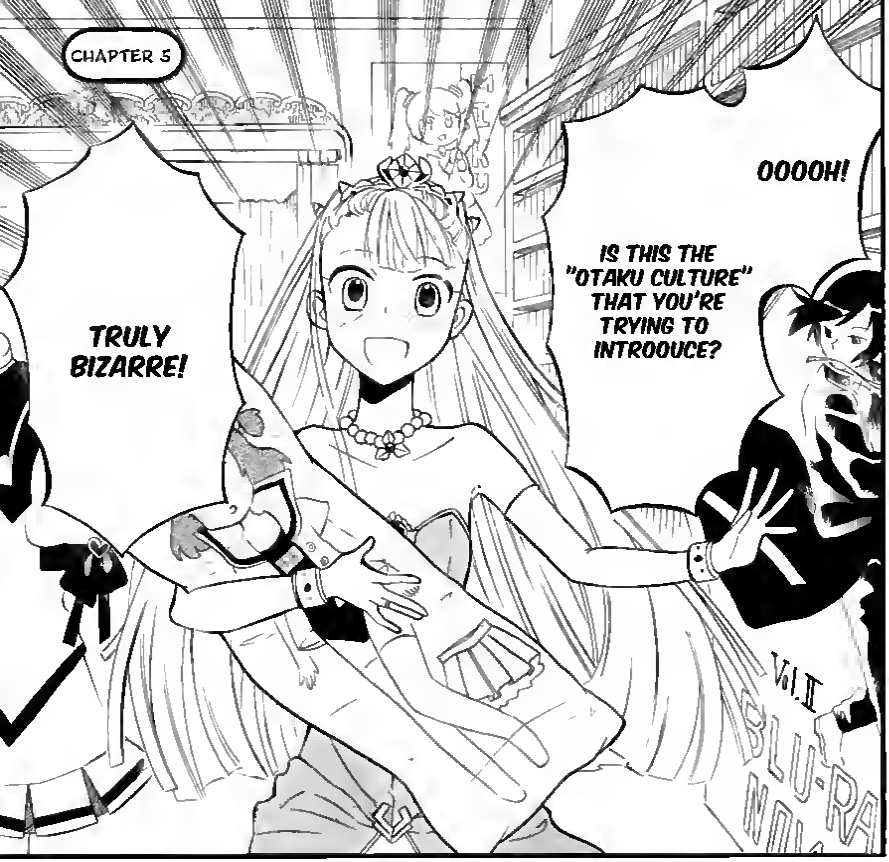
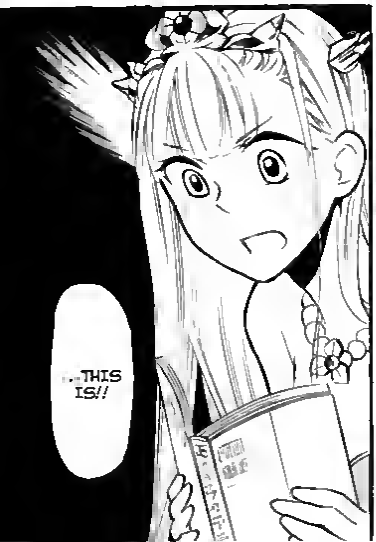

CHAPTER 5
TRULY BIZARRE!
OOOOH!
IS THIS THE "OTAKU CULTURE" THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO INTROOUCE?
Vol. II

YOUR MAJESTY, PLEASE, WAIT!!
ENLIGHTEN ME, KANOU SHINICHI!!
dumbfounded
fwip

CHAPTER 5

NOT A PROBLEM. HONESTLY, IT'S AN HONOR THAT HER MAJESTY HAS TAKEN A LIKING TO THEM.
What is this?
Please refrain from
kyah!
She's clearly a handful for you, too

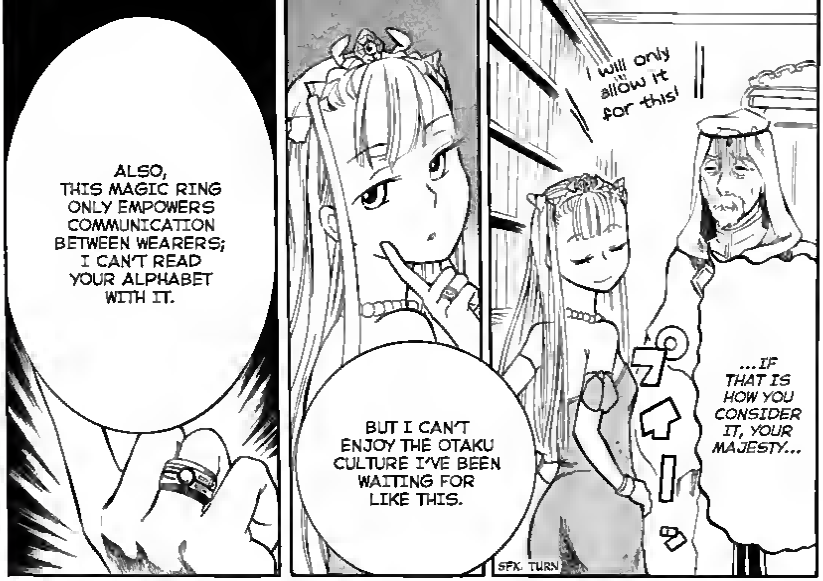


HMPH,
WHAT MAGNIFICENT COLORING.
IT'D BE NICE IF SHE'D CALM DOWN A BIT..
ITS TASTE IS SO DIFFERENT FROM NORMAL PAINTINGS AND MURALS!

T/L NOTE: IT IS A PARODY OF "SHIRITSU EBISUCHUU GAKU" OR PRIVATE EBISU MIDDLE SCHOOL, WHICH IS THE NAME OF A FEMALE IDOL GROUP IN JAPAN

SFX: PUFF OUT
LISTEN WELL, KANOU SHININCHI.
I ADMIT THAT THESE DRAWINGS ARE QUITE INTERESTING...
...UNREADABLE!
TO YOU, OF COURSE, IT IS
SFX: SERIOUS FACE
I SIMPLY GO BY "SHINICHI."
THE SAME AS ME CONSTANTLY CALLING YOU "EMPRESS PETRALKA ANNE ELDANT THE THIRD".
YOUR MAJESTY, CALLING ME KANOU SHINICHI ALL THE TIME IS
THAT WOULD BE SPLENDID.
SHINICHI FROM NOW ON?
I-IF YOU INSIST. SHALL I CALL YOU
hm

THEN, I WILL SPECIALLY PERMIT YOU
TO CALL ME PETRALKA.
びくぅ
UNACCEPTABLE, YOUR MAJESTY!!
SFX: STARTLED
DO NOT WORRY. THE NAME APPLIES ONLY IN THIS MANSION.
meh
EXCEPT FOR A FIANCÉE!!
NO ONE CAN CALL AN IMPERIAL FAMILY MEMBER BY FIRST NAME, OTHER THAN THOSE RELATED TO THE IMPERIAL FAMILY BY BLOOD OR MARRIAGE.
I AM JUST ABIDING BY THEIR MANNERS TO BETTER APPRECIATE OTAKU CULTURE.
THERE'S A SAYING THAT GOES "WHEN IN ROME, DO AS THE ROMANS DO!"
ADDRESS ME PROPERLY AS THE EMPRESS BEYOND THESE WALLS.


ALSO, THIS MAGIC RING ONLY EMPOWERS COMMUNICATION BETWEEN WEARERS; I CAN'T READ YOUR ALPHABET WITH IT.
BUT I CAN'T ENJOY THE OTAKU CULTURE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR LIKE THIS.
I will only allow it for this!
...IF THAT IS HOW YOU CONSIDER IT, YOUR MAJESTY...
SFX. TURN

Glance
EH?
WHAT A BOTHER~
IS IT NOT?

OH,
THE EMPRESS HAS COME HERE IN SECRET.
OH MY, IF IT ISN'T CHANCELLOR ZACHAR! TO WHAT DO I OWE THE HONOR?
NOT FOR NOW.
THEN, I'D BETTER NOT DISTURB THEM.
SHE'S WITH SHINICHI -KUN IN THAT ROOM.
HER MAJESTY SAID SHE WANTED TO SEE OTAKU CULTURE.
HM.
MATOBA-SAN,
THIS IS A PLAN OUTLINE FROM SHINICHI-KUN.

SFX: SQUEEZE
むぎゅ
UHM... "D-DON'T KILL ME!"
"HE STOOD UP AT THE GIRL'S SCREAM."
THEY'RE SO CLOSE!!
AND THEY'RE BRUSHING AGAINST ME!!

PULL PULL
awawawah
!!
TURN THE PAGE ALREADY! I WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS NEXT!
Y-
YES!
AH.
SO SWEET! THEY SMELL LIKE FLOWERS~
eeeeek
THIS MEANS YOU, DANNA-SAMA!
I CAN READ IT!
WITH THIS LEGENDARY SWORD
IT'S POSSIBLE* TO DEFEAT HIM!
*THE WORD "POSSIBLE" IS READ AS KANOU

OH, YOU MEAN THIS. IT SOUNDS THE SAME, BUT HAS A DIFFERENT MEANING.
EVERY KANJI HAS ITS OWN MEANING,
AND "KANOU" MEANS "IT CAN COME TRUE."
IS THAT SO?
THIS IS DIFFI-CULT.
BUT YOU'RE ALREADY PERFECT WITH HIRAGANA AND KATAKANA.
MYUCEL, YOU'RE A QUICK LEARNER.
NO, WELL... DANNA-SAMA,
IT'S ALL BECAUSE YOU STAYED BY MY SIDE WHEN I WAS STUDYING LATE AT NIGHT.

I NEVER IMAGINED THE DAY WOULD COME THAT I COULD READ LETTERS.
SFX: PULL
Wh-
What?!
IT'S CALLED AN ONOMATO-POEIA, AND...
WHOA!?
DOES THIS SIGN HAVE ANY MEANING?

YOUR MAJESTY!?
HUH?
SILENCE!
WH-
WH-
WH-
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

I CAN'T READ IT WELL UNLESS I'M POSED THIS WAY,
SHINICHI!!
AND DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO CALL ME PETRALKA?
ANYWAY, Y-Y-Y-YOU AREN'T SUPPOSED TO DO THIS~
AH, I'M SORRY.
UH, PETRALKA. RIGHT.
AND-
I DON'T MIND, SO JUST KEEP READING!
IT HURTS MY NECK TO SEE IT FROM THE SIDE.

YOU, MAID!
BRING US SOME TEA.
THE ONE OVER THERE IS TOO COLD! BRING A NEW POT!
FORGIVE ME, YOUR MAJESTY.
I'LL BRING YOUR TEA IMMEDIATELY.
IT IS ALWAYS BEST TO KEEP A SERVANT IN HER PLACE.

UH...
nod
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.
PETRALKA,
I ASKED MYUCEL TO STAY BEHIND
BECAUSE I THOUGHT CHANCELLOR ZACHAR MIGHT BE WORRIED IF YOU WERE ALONE WITH ME.
SFX SQUEEZE
I AM SORRY I GOT CARRIED AWAY TALKING TO HER.
YOU'RE MAD, AREN'T YOU?
I AM NOT ANGRY! MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS, AND READ THE NEXT PAGE!
OUCH!

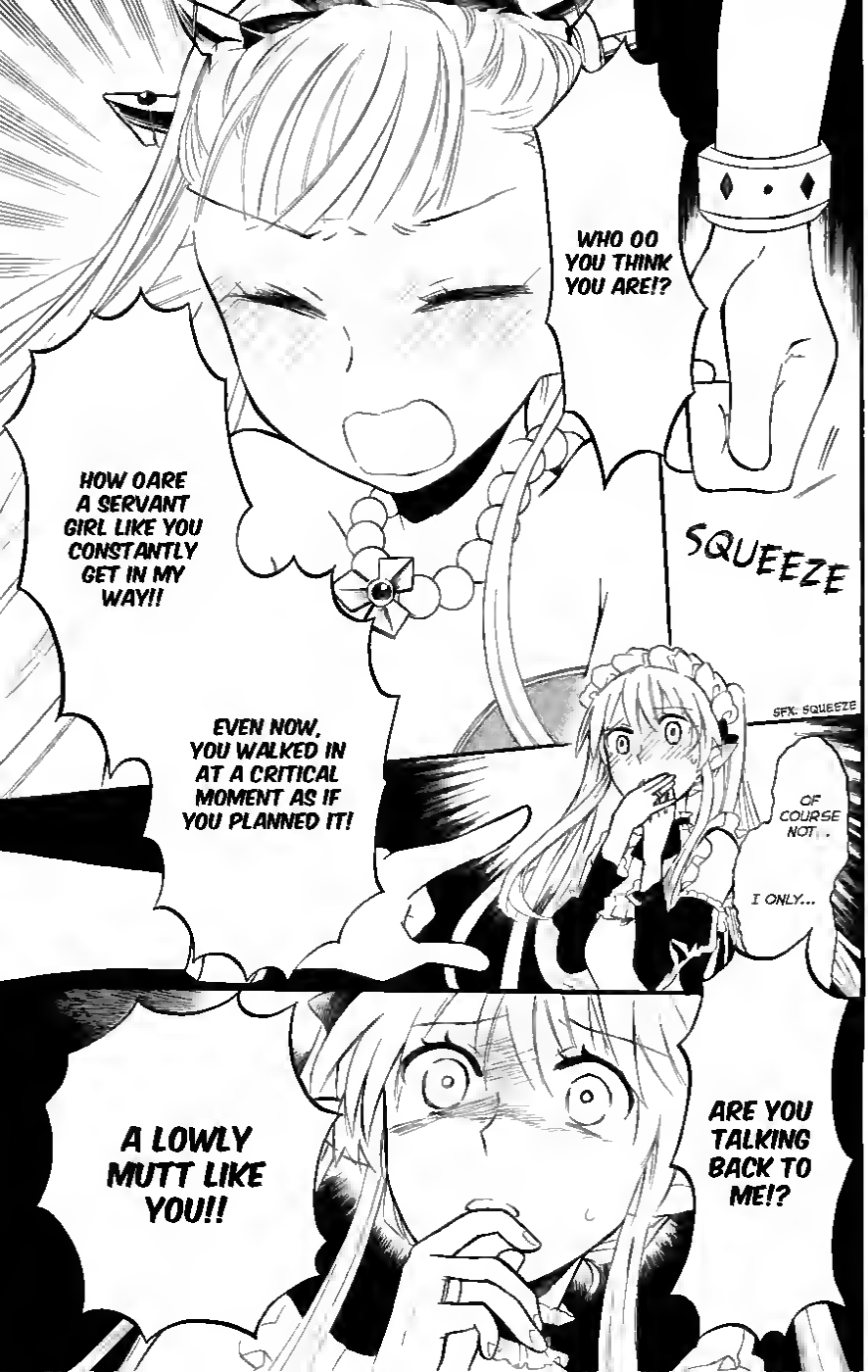
OHO!
I DIDN'T EXPECT THE MINSTREL TO FIGHT!

SHINICHI, NEXT PAGE! MOVE IT!
such a quickly-moving plot!
HE CAN'T POSSIBLY WIN WITH HIS SONGS AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS; WHAT WILL HE DO...?

SEEMS LIKE IT WAS A GOOD CHOICE.
WELL, I ALSO LOVE THIS MANGA.
WHAT?! DON'T LAUGH AT ME.

I'M GLAD YOU'RE ENJOYING IT.
SFX: KNOCK
wheel
wheel
wheel
EXCUSE ME. I'VE BROUGHT THE TEA.
NOW, PETRALKA, PLEASE GET DOWN FROM ME.
LET'S HAVE A DRINK.

WAIT. JUST A LITTLE MORE...
THE STORY'S GETTING INTO A GOOD PART.
I'M FEELING THIRSTY.
WHY DON'T WE REST A BIT?
OH, THERE ARE PASTRIES TOO?
YES, I WAS CONCERNED IT WAS ABOUT TIME YOU'D BE TIRED,
SO I PREPARED CREME RUNDT.
MY, HOW THOUGHT-FUL!
YOU'RE PRETTY PERCEPTIVE! THANK YOU.


WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE!?
HOW DARE A SERVANT GIRL LIKE YOU CONSTANTLY GET IN MY WAY!!
SQUEEZE
SFX: SQUEEZE
EVEN NOW, YOU WALKED IN AT A CRITICAL MOMENT AS IF YOU PLANNED IT!
OF COURSE NOT.
I ONLY...
A LOWLY MUTT LIKE YOU!!
ARE YOU TALKING BACK TO ME!?

I-
WHA-
I AM MOST ASHAMED.
I BEG FOR YOUR MERCY, YOUR MAJESTY.
WHAT'S THIS RUCKUS ABOUT?
P-
PETRALKA.

WELL, THE EMPRESS IS, UH...
I HEARD HER IMPERIAL MAJESTY IS HERE, SO I CAME TO CHECK UP ON THE SITUATION.
NO, WE'VE GOTTA STOP HER.
PLEASE HELP ME!!
HUH?
ストﾘ
HER MAJESTY DOESN'T CALM DOWN EASILY WHEN SHE BECOMES AGITATED.

!!
!!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN.

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT, YOU'D BETTER COVER YOUR EARS.
YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE PATIENT UNTIL HER MAJESTY GETS TIRED OF IT.

MYUCEL DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG, BUT SHE'S GETTING SCOLDED LIKE THAT-

IT CAN'T BE HELPED SINCE THE SERVANT GIRL DISPLEASED HER MAJESTY.
PUNISHMENT IS, TO SOME DEGREE, PART OF HER CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT.
SHE WOULD HAVE FARED WORSE OTHERWISE, SINCE HALF ELVES ARE OF LOW BIRTH, NORMALLY BARRED FROM EMPLOYMENT BY NOBLES

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR CHIVALRY?
LIKE "PROTECTING THE WEAK FROM THE STRONG?"
YOU APPEAR TO BE MISTAKEN ABOUT CHIVALRY.
A KNIGHT IS A GUARDIAN TO THE ELDANT EMPIRE ITSELF, AN EMBODIMENT OF LAW AND JUSTICE.
I SHALL PUT MY LIFE ON THE LINE TO FIGHT AGAINST INJUSTICE.
BUT I HAVE NO RIGHT TO INTERFERE WITH AFFAIRS THAT ARE UNRELATED TO THAT END.
SHE IS A HALF ELF, OF MIXED BLOOD, WHILE PETRALKA IS THE EMPRESS OF ELDANT EMPIRE.
THE RIGHT TO CONTROL HER FATE BELONGS TO THE EMPRESS.

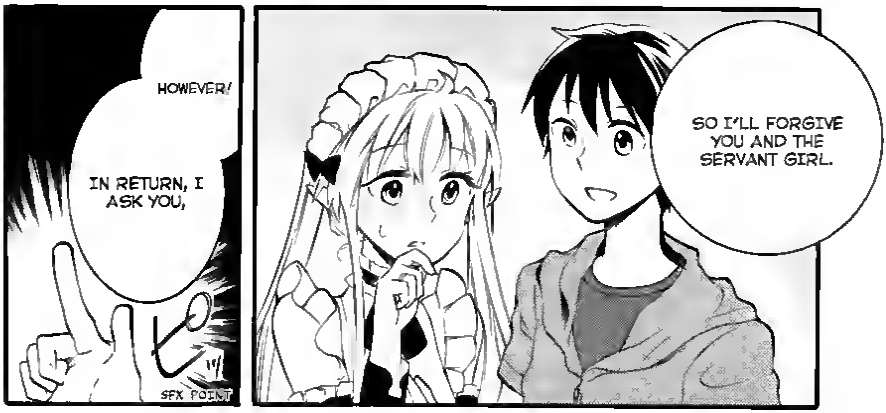
HOW DARE YOU EXPECT ME TO EAT FOOD PREPARED BY A HALF ELF?!
SFX: FLINCH
PETRALKA!

WHY ARE... YOU TRYING TO COVER UP FOR THIS CREATURE!?
...SHIN-ICHI.
SH-
SHIN-ICHI...?
I'VE BEEN JUDGED AND PERSECUTED BY OTHERS BEFORE. SEE.
"FOR THAT REASON"
I JUST COULDN'T BEAR TO WATCH IT ANYMORE.
I DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A REASON FOR THIS...
release

THEY SAY "WE CAN BE TREATED THAT WAY."
BECAUSE WE'RE "THOSE KINDS OF PEOPLE"
BECAUSE I'M "AN OTAKU"
BECAUSE MYUCEL IS "A MIXED BLOOD, A SUBHUMAN"
IDEALS SUCH AS LIBERTY, EQUALITY, AND FRATERNITY...
ぱっ
LOOK, THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS CLASS DISTINCTION IN MY CULTURE.
THOSE ARE THE FOUNDATIONS OF MY CULTURE.
IF YOU WANT TO ENJOY THE MATERIAL I'M BRINGING TO YOU,
I THINK YOU NEED TO LEARN THEM,
SO PLEASE TRY TO UNDERSTAND.

AH.
WORDS FOR INCOMPREHENSIBLE CONCEPTS ARE NOT TRANSLATED.
SHOOT!
WHO IS THIS "BYODOU" PERSON?
NOTE: SAME JOKE AS IN CHAPTER 4
WHAT!? NO!
"LIBERTY" MEANS "UNBOUND" OR "UNRESTRAINED";
ARE YOU REFERRING TO CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR?
DO I HAVE TO EXPLAIN THIS FROM SQUARE ONE?
Protector Mentee
?
SFX GLARE
I FIND IT AMUSING THAT SOMEONE STOPPED THE ENRAGED EMPRESS WITH WORDS ALONE.
BUT IN FACT YOU WERE ACTING ON THE IDEOLOGY YOU MENTIONED - LIBERTY, EQUALITY, AND FRATERNITY?
...HOW INTERESTING. I THOUGHT YOU WERE TALKING DOWN TO THE EMPRESS IN THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT,

...I ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR BRAVERY IN RISKING BLASPHEMY AGAINST AN EMPRESS TO TEACH US A LESSON,
SHIN-ICHI,
WELL,


HOWEVER!
IN RETURN, I ASK YOU,
SFX POINT
SO I'LL FORGIVE YOU AND THE SERVANT GIRL.

TO TEACH ME YOUR *NIHONGO* AS WELL.

I CANNOT ACCEPT THAT THE LIKES OF A SERVANT GIRL WOULD KNOW SOMETHING THAT I, WORTHY OF THE IMPERIAL THRONE, DO NOT.
I WILL LEARN NIHONGO AHEAD OF ANYONE ELSE,
AND DETERMINE FOR MYSELF WHETHER THIS "OTAKU CULTURE" OF YOURS WILL BE BENEFICIAL TO MY EMPIRE'S OWN CULTURE OR NOT!
your m-yes, majesty.
AND YOU - IT'S MYUCEL, CORRECT? I WILL NOT TOLERATE YOU STEALING A MARCH ON ME.
NO MORE PRIVATE LESSONS WITH HIM.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT?
point
don't point your finger at me~!!

THAT YOUR IMPERIAL MAJESTY HAS TAKEN AN INTEREST IN OUR "OTAKU CULTURE."
WE ARE MOST PLEASED TO KNOW
MATOBA-SAN, ISN'T THAT-
ACTUALLY, KANOU HAS AN IDEA FOR OUR COMPANY THAT HE HAS BEEN PLANNING FOR SOME TIME.
NOTES ON THE FOUNDATION OF AN OTAKU TRAINING ACADEMY
WE'D LIKE TO REQUEST PERMISSION FOR THIS!
CHAPTER 5: END

アウトブレイク・カンパニー
OUTBREAK COMPANY
萌える侵略者
第1巻おわり
2巻へつづく!!

榊一郎

SAKAKI ICHIRO

ラノベの漫画化には、実は選択肢が二つ在ります。お願いする漫画家さんを探す場合に「原作の挿絵に絵柄で似ている」点を優先か、「漫画を描くという技能の高さ」が優先か。勿論、両方兼ね備えているのが最善ですが、最終的な決断でどちらを優先するかは予め決めておかねばなりません。そして今回お願いしたのは後者、漫画としての技能の高い方、でした。

結果は御覧の通り、読み易く、しかも原作の筋には沿いながら、原作とは違う角度からの慎一やミュセル達を描いて貰う――魅力を掘り起こしていただく事になりました。これぞメディアミックスの醍醐味、私は「なるほど、慎一って人によってはこう見えるのね」などと発見もあったりして大変楽しんでおります。

1巻おめでとうございます！

Yuugen
ゆーげん

あとがき

コミカライズをやってみないかと、担当さんからお話をいただいたのは2012年2月初旬のことです。それから話し合いを重ねて同年11月に連載をスタートさせました。

この物語は、引きこもり少年・慎一くんが、いきなり異世界へ連れてこられて文化も言葉も違う価値観も異なる中、交流していかなければならないというお話です。

私にとって、小説を漫画にするという試みは初めてのことでした。

どういうふうに描けばいいんだろう。

言葉と文章で表現する世界と、絵とコマで表現する世界。

この二つの世界をどうつないでいけばいいのか……。

ネームのたびに悩みます。

迷ったりとまどったり今もずっとですが、それでも少しずつ回を重ねるごとに交流していけてるんじゃないかな？と思っています。

漫画の良さってなんだ？　それを私なりに考えて、今後も精一杯描いていこうと思います。

チャンスをくださった榊先生、編集部の皆様、いつも設定画・デザイン画をくださるゆーげん先生、いつもアシスタントに来てくれるイトウさん・チンさん、見守ってくれている母に感謝します。

ほんとうにありがとうございます。

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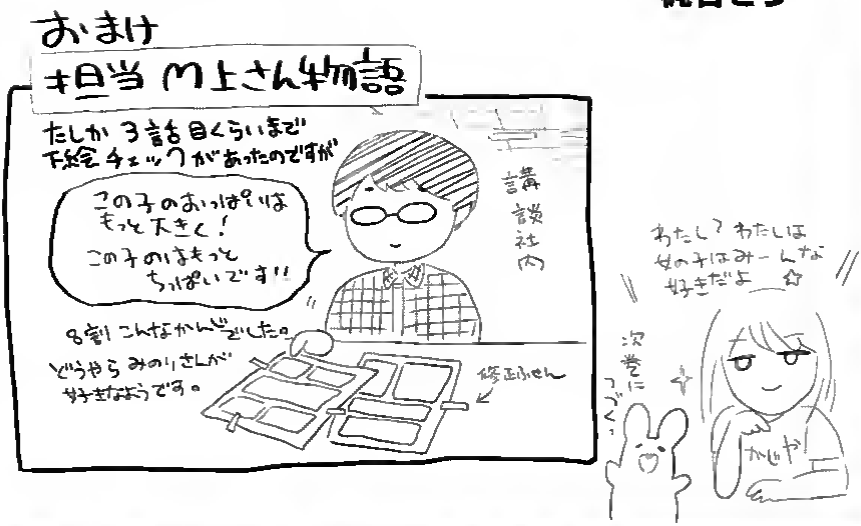

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